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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/942,250	08/28/2001	Joseph Antonini	60680-1187	6180
10291	7590	08/03/2004	EXAMINER	
RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC 39533 WOODWARD AVENUE SUITE 140 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304-0610			LEE, EDMUND H	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1732		

DATE MAILED: 08/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/942,250	ANTONINI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
EDMUND H. LEE	1732	

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 06 July 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
 ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: none.

Claim(s) objected to: none.

Claim(s) rejected: 1-11.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The drawing correction filed on _____ is a)a) approved or b)b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: see attachment

EDMUND H. LEE
 Primary Examiner
 Art Unit: 1732

Attachment to Advisory Action

1. Applicant's arguments filed 7/6/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's after-final amendment has not been entered because it adds new claim 12 without canceling a claim.

Applicant argues that Decker does not teach a blank metal substrate. Even though Decker does teach the preferential use of a rubber and rubberlike material, Decker also teaches using any conventional gasket material such as metal which is apparent from the cross-hatchings of component 11 in the figures. It appears applicant believes Decker's listing of preferential material is a "must use" list but this is misplaced because Decker does not explicitly teach the "must use" of rubber and rubberlike material. Decker's deliberate use of cross-hatchings that indicate metal is clearly evident of Decker's intent to include a compressible metal as one of the materials for the compressible component.

Applicant argues that the compressible component of Decker is not like the "rigid non-compressible component" of the metal substrate of the instant invention. This argument is confusing because the metal substrate of the instant invention is shaped by compressing. The instant claims uses a metal substrate that is compressible instead of non-compressible.

Applicant also argues that Decker does not use a blank because the creation of the groove does not reduce the number of forming operations. Applicant's argument is confusing because it is unclear as to how the use of blank is related to a reduction of

the number of forming operations. Applicant is reminded that a blank is merely a piece of material prepared to be made into something. Component 11 of Decker is just that; it is a piece of material that is made into a component having a groove at its periphery.

Applicant argues that component 12 of Decker is not molded. This argument is misplaced because Decker clearly teaches that component 12 is injection molded (col 3, lns 48-56; col 4, lns 35-55; fig 3). Applicant is reminded that thermosetting is curing.

Applicant also argues that claims 6-10 are patentable due to the patentability of claims 1-5. Examiner does not find claims 1-5 to be patentable thus claims 6-10 are not found to be patentable as well.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EDMUND H. LEE whose telephone number is 571.272.1204. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-THURSDAY FROM 9AM-4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Colaianni can be reached on 571.272.1196. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EDMUND H. LEE
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1732

EHL


8/2/04